Japanese Assistance to Srisailam left Canal Power Project

*296. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has agreed to provide financial assistance to "Srisailam Left Canal Power House" in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) O.E.C.F., Japan has sanctioned a loan of 26101 Million Yen in 1988 for this project.

Conversion of Telephone Exchange at Muktsar into an automatic Exchanges

*297. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to convert the manual telephone exchange at Muktsar in Faridkot District of Punjab into an automatic exchange;

(b) if so, what is the present stage of the proposal; and

(c) by when the new exchange is likely to be installed and what are the reasons for delay in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) work in progress.

(c) By 31st March, 1993 as per schedule.

Loss Incurring branches of State Bank of Indore

*298. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the branches of the State Bank of Indore, in the country which are running in losses;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to make these branches profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) State Bank of Indore have reported that as on 31.3.1992 56 out of their 335 branches were incurring losses. The break-up of these branches by population category is as follows:

Population Category	Number of branches	As a percentage of total No. of branches in respective category
Rural . .	39	25.66% (of 152 Branches)
Urban . .	10	13.70% (of 73 Branches)
Metropolitan .	7	24.14% (of 29 Branches)

(b) The losses were due to the locational disadvantages of the branches and the less than optimum business potential available in their area of operation.

(c) State Bank of Indore have preported that they have changed the staffing pattern in these branches with a view to reduce establishment expenses. Further, the branches have been advised to improve their business strategy and to make efforts to generate more income from remittances, nonfund based business like letters of credit, guarantee etc.